

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 18-21, 24 and 26-31 are pending in the present application. Claims 16, 17, 22, 23 and 25 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claims 15, 21, 24 and 31 have been amended by the present supplemental amendment without introducing new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action dated February 26, 2004, Claims 15, 16, 18-24 and 26-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Rohani et al. (U.S. Patent 6,064,659, herein "Rohani") in view of Dahlman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,173,162, herein "Dahlman") in further view of Chen (U.S. Patent 5,893,035); and Claims 17, 25 and 31 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that Claims 17, 25 and 31 include allowable subject matter. In light of that indication, Claim 15 has been amended to include subject matter of Claim 16 and subject matter of Claim 17 that was indicated as allowable, and Claims 16 and 17 have been canceled.

Claim 21 has been amended to include subject matters of Claims 22 and 23 and subject matter of Claim 25 that was indicated as allowable, and Claims 22, 23 and 25 have been canceled.

Claim 24 has been amended to correct its dependency.

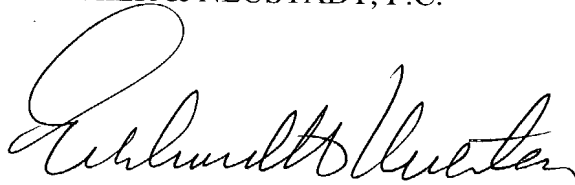
Claim 31 has been rewritten in independent form to include subject matter of base Claim 21, and subject matters of intervening Claims 22, 23 and 24.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

Consequently, in light of the prior indication of allowable subject matter and above discussion, and in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and therefore the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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